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1990/04/13

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B1,A3   ARA/NEA REARCS

PAGE 01   DAMASC 02341 131609Z   002110   606276
ACTION: SY (03)

INFO: RA (01)   MRA (01)   NEA (02)   EG (02)   JO (03)   IS (02)
        ---------------------------- 14/1052Z A3 HS   (TOTAL COPIES: 014)
ACTION NEA-00

INFO LOG-00   ADS-00   INR-05   EUR-00   SS-00   CIAE-00   DODE-00
      H-01   NSCE-00 NSAE-00 PM-00   EAP-00   INRE-00   ACDA-13
      SP-00   C-01   SCT-03   P-02   SB-00   /032 W
                        ---------------- 061257 140656Z /22

R 131211Z APR 90
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4968
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
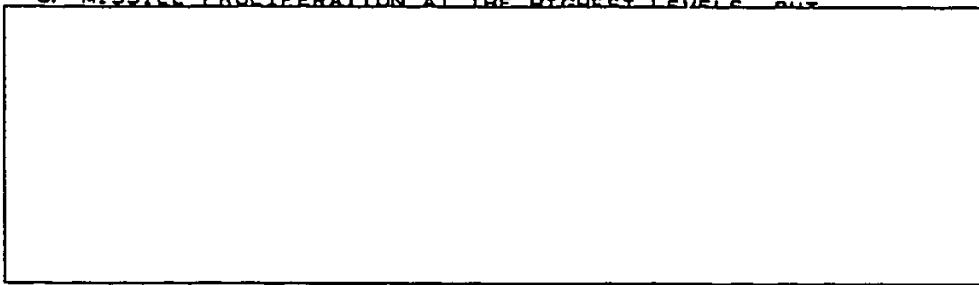AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 02341

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, CH, SY
SUBJECT: CHINESE AMBASSADOR: MISSILE SALES - A WEAK
-         DENIAL, BUT A DENIAL

1.   CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2.   CHINA'S NEW AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA, ZHANG ZHEN, PAID A
COURTESY CALL ON AMBASSADOR APRIL 12.   AMBASSADOR
REVIEWED THE STATUS OF U.S.-SYRIAN RELATIONS IN SOME
DETAIL, EXPLAINING OUR ATTEMPTS TO ENTER INTO A
CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE ON A NUMBER OF KEY ISSUES SUCH AS
THE PEACE PROCESS, LEBANON AND TERRORISM.

3.   AMBASSADOR ALSO REFERRED TO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN
THE WORLD, SUCH AS THE DEVELOPMENTS IN U.S.-SOVIET
RELATIONS WHICH ARE ENABLING THE SUPERPOWERS TO ELIMINATE
WHOLE CATEGORIES OF MISSILES, AND WEAPONS OF MASS
DESTRUCTION.   HE NOTED THAT THERE APPEARS TO BE PROGRESS
IN SEVERAL OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD TO REDUCE THE
POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT - EXCEPT IN THE MIDDLE EAST.   HE
NOTED THAT OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE DISCUSSED THE ISSUE
OF MISSILE PROLIFERATION AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS, BUT

DJEREJIAN

B1,A3